THE GENESEE FARMER.

Vol. V. ROCHESTER, APRIL 11, 1835. No. 15.

Published by Luther Tucker.

TERMS.—The Farmer is published every Saturday, making an annual volume of 416 pages, to which is added a Title-page and Index, at the low price of $2,50, or $2,00 if payment is made at the time of subscribing.

☞All subscribers must commence with the volume, Jan. 1, or with the half volume, July 1. No subscription taken for less than six months.

THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1835.

SEASONABLE HINTS FOR APRIL.

Ploughing.

One of the first as well as most important operations the farmer has to perform is *ploughing*; and although little need be said here on this subject, a few brief hints cannot be amiss. Some land may be ploughed as soon as the frost is out of the ground, such for instance as light sandy soils; and most green sward may be ploughed equally early. But heavy, adhesive soils can be ploughed only at certain seasons to advantage; for if they are too wet, so that the furrow turns over like a dead mass of matter, it will only render it more compact, and do more injury than benefit; or if on the contrary, it should be too dry, it will only break it up into large lumps and cakes, and require a much greater strength of team. That state of dryness should therefore be selected when the soil will most easily crumble to pieces, as in most cases the whole advantage of the operation depends on the thorough pulverization of the soil. This deserves more attention than it often receives, especially when wet and dry land are formed in different parts of the same field.

Barley

Is one of the first crops which require attention It should be sown as soon as the ground is sufficiently dry in the spring. The soil best adapted to it, is one which is light, mellow, and moist, but not wet. It will not grow upon stiff, heavy, wet lands. The quantity of seed to the acre is generally from one and a half to two and a half bushels. The most rich and fertile soils require the least, and the weakest soils require the greatest quantity of seed. Great care should be taken that the seed be entirely clean from oats, as a few grains of the latter, when sown with it, will in a few years increase so much that the crop will become mostly oats. Pouring water upon the seed will cause most of the oats which it may contain to rise to the surface, when they may be skimmed off. As it requires a considerable degree of moisture to cause it to vegetate, it is advantageous on light dry soils to pass a roller over it as soon as it is sown, in order to close the soil about the seed. This operation also renders the surface smoother and better adapted to mowing and raking the crop. Barley is not only a valuable crop in itself, affording when ground a highly nutritive food for cattle and horses; but may also advantageously enter into a system of rotation, as it occupies the ground but little more than three months, and is probably the best of the culmiferous or grass-like plants for fallow crops, preceding winter wheat.

Oats

Are most productive on strong, rich, and adhesive land; they should be sown as early in the spring as the ground will admit, as those sown early generally produce the heaviest grain, though not always the greatest quantity of straw. It is an erroneous notion, though entertained by many, that this crop may be cultivated *to advantage* on poor soils, without manure, and with slight culture. It requires the ground to be well stirred up and mellowed, and to be in good condition.

Preparation for Corn.

It will be necessary during this month to prepare ground for corn; and on this preparation will greatly depend the value of this important crop—the profit or loss in culture. Hence the importance of giving due attention to this first step.

The soils best adapted to this crop are those which are warm, dry, deep and rich. Stiff, hard and wet soils will not afford sufficient returns to repay the expense of cultivation, and the farmer would do better even to suffer such lands to lie idle, than to attempt to raise corn upon them. Copious and fresh manuring are not generally proper for small grain; but for corn, too much can scarcely be applied. Let the farmer therefore spread all his unrotted and coarse munure upon his corn ground with unsparing hand, for this will not only greatly improve the present crop, but it will also continue to afford nourishment to future crops of other grain, for many successive years. Any one who has seen the luxuriance of vegetation in those places where large quantities of manure have been accidentally left on fields, such as at old stacks, &c. must be convinced of its enduring efficacy. If the manure which every farmer has in the spring lying about his barn, is not spread upon his land and ploughed under, he will lose the value of one half of it during the summer, by its fermentation in the open air, the dissipation of its gases and the loos of nutritive fluids carried off from it by the rains. Old straw, rotten chips, and in short every thing which can be found in the form of manure, should be spread upon the corn ground and buried deep with the plough.

Plaster

Is most beneficial when sown early. It should not in any case be sown later than the last of this month. Light or dry soils occupied as grass land, should never remain a season without it. On wet stiff clay it has little effect. The quantity should be from one to two bushels per acre Let every farmer who uses it, remember to reserve a sufficienty quantity for his corn.

Cattle

Should have a constant supply of *salt* before them during the whole season; it should be so placed that they may have access to it at *all times*; and to effect this, troughs, such as described in the Genesee Farmer, vol. 3, page 130, may be used for holding the salt. The practice of giving cattle salt "once in a while," as it is commonly practiced, is not enough; they must have it always before them.* Cattle and horses are said to be far less liable to diseases by the free use of salt. Curwen says, "In the year 1822, before I commenced giving my cattle salt, my farrier's bill averaged fifty eight pounds per annum, and since I have commenced using salt, I have never paid in any one year over five shillings." Traveling horses should be supplied with it, whenever they are fed on the journey. Salting cows which are fed on turneps will effectually remove from the milk and butter all taste of this root. Judge Buel says, "My cows have eaten turneps spring and fall for ten years, yet in two or three instances only do I remember that this food imparted any bad flavor to the milk and butter,—and probably in the instances noticed, the salt troughs were from negligence empty."

As a great number of things are always to be done on a farm, let every farmer carry in his pocket a paper and pencil, and as soon as any thing requiring early attention occurs to him, which cannot be done immediately, let him make a memorandum of it, and thus in a short time he will have a list of whatever is necessary to be done; and at any leisure moment by consulting this list, he determines at once what next needs his attention most. It is a good practice also to write down every evening whatever is to be done next day, and at the end of every week what is to be done the next week. By pursuing this course, the farmer has the whole of his business at one view under his eye, and knows how to spend every hour to best advantage; and he rarely finds any unexpected business to call him suddenly away from his present employment, and thus a great deal of time and vexation is saved, which would otherwise be wasted in being perpetually hurried from one kind of labor to another, leaving every thing but half finished in the bustle.

Hints on Gardening for April.

It is not intended here to make any other remarks on the subject of *laying-out* gardens, except to notice a plan for kitchen gardens exclusively, which may be particularly useful to *farmers*, on account of its adaptation to *economy* in cultivation. This is to have the garden, instead of being laid out in squares and plats, wholly composed of *rows* running lengthwise with the whole garden, so that a plough or cultivator may not only be introduced into it early in spring and late in autumn, but also any time during the summer. The various garden crops are planted in drills or rows running lengthwise with the garden; and a strip of grass or uncultivated ground a few feet wide runs across each end of the garden, for the horse and plough to turn round upon. The garden may thus be cultivated by the plough in many cases far more easily than could be done with a spade or hoe.

One of the first operations in spring, where crops have not been sown in the fall, is to give

* They will never take it in excess, but will consume very little more than when it is supplied only once a week.

the garden a deep and thorough ploughing; if the plough do not go deep enough at once, let it pass twice in the same place; and if the soil thus thrown up is not rich and fertile enough for garden crops, it should be intimately mixed with a large quantity of well rotted manure. Thus by throwing under the soil of the surface, and rendering rich what is thrown up, and repeating this operation a very few times, it will become deep, mellow, and fertile, and will by the luxuriance of the crops it affords, repay more than tenfold, all the expense of ploughing and manuring.

—

Sowing.

The soil in order to be well prepared for sowing, should be fresh or recently dug, and finely pulverized. When seeds are sown, the earth should be pressed down upon them; and when the soil is so heavy and wet as to *bake* from this operation, it is rarely fit for gardening. Plants should always when practicable be sown in drills or rows; as they can then be much more conveniently thinned out afterwards than when sown broadcast, and are freed from weeds with one tenth part of the labor. A cord or line, one half or the whole length of the garden, is necessary as a guide in drawing the furrows straight. Cobbett thus describes his method of sowing *beds* in drills for garden crops. "I have what is called a *driller*, which is a *rake* six feet long in the head. This head is made of white oak, 2 inches by 2½; it has *teeth* in it at *eight inches* asunder, each tooth being about six inches long, and an inch in diameter at the head, and is pointed a little at the end that meets the ground. This gives *nine* teeth, there being four inches over at each end of the head. In this head, there is a handle fixed of about six feet long. When my ground is prepared, raked nice and smooth, and cleaned from stones and clods, I begin at the left hand end of the bed, and draw across it *nine rows at once*. I then proceed, taking care to keep the left hand tooth of the driller in the right hand drill that has just been made; so that now I make but *eight new drills*, because (for a guide) the left hand tooth goes this time in the drill which was before made by the right hand tooth. Thus, at every draw, I make *eight drills*. And in this way a pretty long bed is formed into nice, straight drills in a very few minutes."

—

Early Peas

Come forward several days earlier when sown in the fall; but as there is danger of their being destroyed in the ground during winter by the *mice*, it is often necessary to defer the operation till spring. When this is the case, they should be sown as early as possible, as they endure severe frosts after they are up uninjured. An excellent way for preparing the ground for them, and indeed for nearly all garden crops sown in drills, is to plough the ground in ridges 3 or 4 feet apart, with deep furrows between, and fill these furrows with manure and plough the soil back upon it. The top of the last formed ridge is to be levelled a little, and the peas sown in two parallel drills 8 or 10 inches apart, and 2 or 3 inches deep.

—

Onions

Should also be sown early, on a shallow but rich soil, in drills running across the bed about 10 or 12 inches apart. The seed should be dropped about 2 inches apart, and the young plants may afterwards be thinned out to a proper distance.

—

Beets, Carrots, and Parsneps,

If not sown in the fall, should be as soon as the ground is in a fit state for cultivation in the spring. The drills should be about a foot asunder; and as all the seed rarely vegetate, they should be sown thick, and afterwards thinned to about eight inches apart. The seed should be buried 2 inches deep and the soil pressed down upon them.

—

Tomatoes

May be either sown in the open ground or in a hot bed to be afterwards transplanted. In the latter case they ripen their fruit several weeks earlier. Whether sown or transplanted in the open ground, the plants should stand at a distance of 2 or 3 feet from each other, as they occupy a great deal of room, especially where the soil is fertile, spreading over several feet of ground.

—

Lettuce,

Where a succession is desired, may be sown every month till the middle of summer.

—

No person should undertake to cultivate a larger garden than he can do thoroughly. Two rods square, well tilled and manured, will be found far more profitable than half an acre of poor land unmanured and imperfectly cultivated. But manuring and thorough tillage must, in order to insure complete success, be continued with alternation of crops—the same crop must not be grown upon the same ground for several years, but plants as dissimilar in their character and nature as possible must successively occupy the same land. Judge Buel appropriated certain portions of his garden to respective garden crops without changing, and found that notwithstanding copious manuring, the products were annually diminishing; but afterwards by adopting the system of rotation, his crops have increased nearly four fold.

In short, the great secret in cultivating a garden *profitably* is to do it judiciously and *thoroughly*; and the reason why farmers are so often deterred from devoting more attention and labor to this subject, is that they have never taken hold of the business at the right end. A garden can never prove profitable when it is but half cultivated and allowed to be overrun with weeds. But let every farmer choose a piece of land of such size as he can easily manage, and work it with care and attention and it will become a source both of pleasure and profit.

Winter-killed Wheat.

Wheat, thrown out of the ground by the mechanical action of the frost, or as it is generally termed, *winter-killed*, may be restored by passing a heavy roller over the ground, thus pressing the roots again into the soil. The time for performing this operation should be when the earth is sufficiently moist to pack closely round the roots, but not so wet as to work to a mortar. If deferred until the ground becomes dry, it will be of little benefit, as the desired effect is not then produced, even if the plants have not already become dried up and dead from the want of a supply of nourishment through the roots. Swales and low mucky soils, such as are most heaved by frost, remain moist however much later than other land; and there are doubtless many parts of the country where a great saving may yet be effected by attention in this particular.

A very successful exeriment on injured wheat was last season performed by a young farmer, who observing the apparently nearly ruined state of his crop, gave it a thorough rolling in the spring at a time when the ground was very moist, and the previously yellow and sickly appearance of the wheat changed in a short time to a fine green, and a crop was afterwards harvested from it, averaging thirty-five bushels to the acre. The ground had been the two previous years under tillage.

Turneps buried in heaps often become heated in the spring by the sun and sprout; this may be prevented by making two or more holes into the heap by a crowbar or sharp stick, so as to suffer the heated air to escape.

Great Elevation of the Cereal GRASSES.

The extensive range of the Cereal grasses, wheat, rye and barley, and their adaptation to nearly all climates, forms one of the most convincing proofs of the wisdom and goodness of the Creator. Of these three plants wheat is the least hardy, and barley the most so. In the equatorial regions of South America, and the southern part of Mexico, wheat does not grow under an elevation of from three to four thousand feet above the sea, and its upper limits have not been accurately ascertained, as the plain of Quito, 9000 feet high, is famous for its fine wheat. In the passage of the Himala mountains in northern India, Capt. Webb found barley ripened at the height of 12,000 feet; and on the banks of the Sutledge, a branch of the Indus which rises on the high table land of central Asia, and for a considerable distance washes the northern base of that colossal range, he discovered at the height of 15,000 feet a new kind of wheat, specimens of which have been sent to England. The head and beard so much resemble barley, that an inexperienced observer would have taken it for that grain, but when freed from the chaff the berry was a fine looking wheat. In the regions of the Himala, barley is sown in June and cut in August, so rapid is the progress of vegetation during the short summer with which they are favored in those elevated regions. But the most striking instance of the effect of elevation in advancing or retarding vegetation which we have noticed, is found in Lieut. Burnes' Journey from India to Bokhara in Tartary. In the notes of his journey from the Indus to Cabool, in crossing the snowy range of mountains which intervene, he says—"At Gundamuk we reached the border of the hot and cold countries. It is said to snow on one side of the rivulet and to rain on the other. Vegetable life assumes a new form: *the wheat which was being cut at Jullabad, was only three inches above ground at Gundamuk. The distance does not exceed twenty-five miles.*" This was on the 27th of April; and during his northward advance into Tartary, he found himself in the midst of harvest, after he had passed the Hindoo Koosh, the western prolongation of the Himala range.

G.

Vernal Flowers.

(In a letter of the 25th ult.)

The double Snow drop (*Galanthus nivalis*) was in bloom on the 8th instant in a sheltered border, and the single Snowdrop a day or two later; but this was not according to the order of nature, for single flowers are generally earlier than double flowers of the same species. The difference in the present case was occasioned by setting the single flowers rather *too deep*. As the bulbs are very hardy, I hope to be more particular in future, for I enjoy the first message of Spring too much to have it willingly deferred for a single day.

The cup or nectary of the single Snowdrop is painted green on the inside, but most delicately; and slightly tipped with the same color on the outside. Its three petals are of a lovely white; and altogether it is a beautiful flower,—perhaps more so than the double variety which is crowded in the centre with greenish leaves. It is pendant; waits for the sunshine before it expands, and closes up, as if chilled, in the shade. Its whole existence above ground indeed, is limited to a most fickle season.

I had not searched for the Snowdrop in the open ground for some days, because the garden has been covered with snow; but this afternoon I found it had melted off within a few hours, and this plant as well as *Eranthis hyemalis*, was fairly in bloom. The latter was particularly mentioned in my sketch of last year.

The leaves of the Cloth of Gold *Crocus* were protruding, and one fair day will probably be enough to bring forth its flower, which (like those on the borders of perpetual snow) almost rests on the ground. The white flamed Crocus opened yesterday in a sheltered place, though it is not so early as the former kind when they grow side by side. These flowers may justly rank among the loveliest ornaments of spring.

I have no shrub so forward in its vegetation at this time as *Spiræa spicata*, a native of the mountainous regions of Nepaul. Last year I noticed the early starting of the Tree Pæonia and Japan Quince, but this far exceeds them; and already its large buds are opening. As it is much of a stranger, I cover it with a box every night lest its flowers should be damaged by the severe weather that seems yet disposed to linger in this quarter.

The song sparrows have made their appearance but they have a dull time. Yesterday one mounted above the snow, tried to tune his pipes; but the effort was feeble, and I doubt if he had sung before since he left us last season. This morning they were busy about the hedges, and though sprightly with much sweetness of note among their fellows, no regular song was attempted. The Woodpecker has also announced his arrival; and the Robin's scolding note was heard this evening. Possibly he may be in a better humor to-morrow, though not much music from these sensitive creatures can be expected in cool weather.

Notices, &c.

Hussey's Grain Cutter.—It will be seen from an advertisement in this paper, that Mr. Hussey's Harvesting Machine, the operation of which was particularly described in a communication from Mr. W. O. Dwight, published in our fourth volume, page 388, may be obtained on application to Mr. J. Horsford, Moscow, Livingston county.

To Correspondents.—Since the space allotted to communications in the present number was filled, we have received "*Ulmus*," "*Ontario*," and "*R.*" which are filed for insertion.

Horse Rake—In answer to a request from some of our Canadian friends, we would state that we shall publish in a week or two, descriptions of the common Horse Rake, and also of the patent Revolving Horse Rake. The drawings are in the hands of the engraver.

Domestic Silk.—The specimens of silk forwarded with the communication of "Philo Bombyx," may be seen at this office. They have been pronounced by competent judges decidedly superior to the Italian sewing silk sold at our stores.

[The two following articles are from a communication read before the New-York State Agricultural Society at its last meeting, by H. Hickock, Esq.]

Destruction of Weeds.

The spirits of turpentine I have found a subtle poison to all plants experimented upon, and among others, I have applied it to milkweed, burdock and Canada thistle; a teaspoonful dropped on the stem will run down and destroy it to the ground, and if the root is not, on the first trial, destroyed, a repetition will be sufficient. This remedy may be of particular use where weeds start up from under stone walls or other inaccessible places.

Johnswort is regarded by many farmers as more noxious than the Canada thistle. It frequently usurps whole fields to the exclusion of all the valuable grasses. On some spots of land covered with this weed I spread gypsum, at the rate of three bushels an acre, and had the satisfaction to find that the spots were soon covered with a thick mat of white clover and other grasses; while the Johnswort was part running out. It is quite possible that a less quantity of gypsum per acre might answer a similar purpose.

Compost.

There are two ways of making a compost, or mixture of earth with manure. Agreeably to one method, a mound is formed in the barn yard or near it, consisting of alternate beds of manure and earth; when the manure has fermented, the mass is turned over with the spade and partially mixed After a renewal and subsidence of fermentation, the materials are again turned over with a spade and more thoroughly blended together. The compost is then drawn out and spread on the field.

The other way of mixing earth with manure, is much less laborious and expensive, and is thought to be, in many respects, more advantageous. The method is this: In the spring of the year, draw out all the manure, including straw, cornstalks, cobs and all other coarse materials fit for the purpose, into the field; spread it, and turn the whole under the soil, from six to twelve inches deep, with the plough. In order to have the work well done, one or more persons must follow the plough, and with a rake, or hoe or fork, place the coarse manure in the bottom of the furrow.

When the manure is not spread over the whole of the field, as in common cases, and the coarse materials cover a still less portion of it, one person is sufficient to follow the plough. But when a lot is entirely covered with coarse manure, two followers will be required, and even three if the business is not properly arranged. The following regulation will save the labor of one hand, by rendering unnecessary the passing and repassing of the rakers, which the method, suggested by our first thoughts, would require. The first raker must set in after the plough, and continue his course; when the plough has performed one bout, the second raker begins his course. The first raker upon completing his round will stop; for he will find the furrow here filled with manure by his companion; but his stop will not be long, for the team will be close upon him, barely allowing time to step aside and permit it to pass; when he again sets in with his rake, or hoe or fork. In this way the business will be conducted with great regularity and to the best advantage.

When the manure has been thus buried under ground, it is usual to plant corn in the field, that plants may be present to partake of the food which the manure furnishes during its decomposition, and also, to keep the field constantly producing valuable crops. In autumn after the corn is gathered, the soil is turned over with the plough, and, with the assistance of the harrow, the decomposed manure and the soil are well mixed together. The compost is now perfected, and the field is in a state of preparation for winter grain.

To this method, it has been objected, that the gases, which first escape during the fermentation of manure, are poisonous to plants, and that their disengagement should be effected, in places where they could not exert their efforts injuriously. The results of several experiments which I have made, would appear to speak a different language from this.

I excavated a spot in my garden about a foot deep, and filled it half full with clean wheat straw; over this was thrown the soil which had been displaced, and melon seeds were planted. The fruit was the largest and best I had ever raised. Upon examination, I found that the straw had undergone a thorough decomposition.

Another spot in the garden I trenched, to the depth of two feet, and deposited in it manure from the horse stable six inches deep, and then filled the trench with the soil which had been thrown out. On this bed were sown parsnep seed; when the roots had attained the size of a goose quill, I dug some of them up. The roots had passed straight down to the manure, and at this depth, which was eighteen inches, they were of two thirds of their size at the surface; the roots when dug for the table, were rather long than large, and they were excellent.

I excavated another spot in my garden, three feet in diameter and a foot deep, and threw in fresh manure from the horse stable, without any admixture of straw, to the depth of six inches, after it was pressed down. In the center of the manure I placed a stake two inches in diameter, and completed the filling up with damp clay well stamped down with a spade. The stake was then withdrawn, and the hole, having the capacity of about a pint, was filled with garden mold; in this were planted two kinds of corn. The stalks of these plants were not large; but, from the first, they preserved a healthy color, and each one produced a fair ear. The particulars of this experiment were so arranged as to cause the gases evolved from the manure, to act with the greatest force on the tender roots of the corn plants as they became developed; and when we consider the effects of the extreme drouth which prevailed last summer, and that the roots of these plants were confined to about a pint of fertile earth, it is reasonable to suppose that the manure supplied them with wholesome nourishment rather than concentrated poison. If coarse manure be but thinly covered over with earth, the soil will be too puffy and dry to produce healthy plants; but I can assert from repeated observations, that the hottest kinds of manure, buried a few inches deep, warm the soil, and give additional vigor to vegetation as well in the gardens as in the fields.

Accumulated wealth brings care, and a thirst for increasing riches. He who requires many luxuries, is always in want of many. Happy is he to whom God has given a sufficiency with a sparing hand.—*Horace.*

Timid dogs bark more violently than they bite.—*Sch.*

COMMUNICATIONS.

Culture & Manufacture of Silk.

BY PHILO BOMBYX.

Our attention has been forcibly arrested by the recent publication of the opinions of DAN BRADLEY, Esq. and Judge SPENCER, upon the propriety of introducing the culture of silk and its subsequent manufacture into fabrics by the state of New York, through the medium of her convicts and paupers, and in her poor houses and penitentiaries; and although it may be both painful and hazardous to counteract the efforts and dispute the conclusions of men who can have no object but their country's good, backed as they are by a weight of legislative authority,—we cannot hesitate to advance and defend the position, that their measures are eminently calculated to destroy the object they design to patronise; and we earnestly call on those who, after repeated exhortations, have embarked extensively in the culture of silk, and the manufacture of the raw material into saleable fabrics, to wave abroad their banner to the breeze, and manfully struggle to defeat a scheme so fraught with danger to their favorite pursuits.

We hold this truth to be self-evident, that every correspondent of the Farmer is, or at least ought to be, an honest inquirer after the best mode of rendering agricultural pursuits honorable and profitable; and that for its attainment he will not be deterred by indolence or authority from exposing his opinions to fair and just criticism, when he thinks those opinions calculated to promote an object in which agriculturists possess a lively and enduring interest. We therefore give it as the deep and abiding conviction of our understanding:

1. That prison labor is, beyond all question, cheaper than the labor of individuals, who are not supported by the public bounty, and therefore the latter can never compete with the former, or thrive under its withering operations.

2. A competition with convicts has ever been a source of the deepest injury, mortification, jealousy and annoyance, to those engaged in similar pursuits.

3. It is degrading the honest, industrious yeomanry of the country *below* the level of convicts and felons, when the state furnishes a bounty to the latter, and calls such a measure "remunerating the country for their depredations."

4. It is a temptation to the helpless and the wretched to make themselves tenants of the penitentiary.

If time and opportunity is furnished we would gladly review the report in question, but we have never seen it until published in the Farmer, and we are at present unable to pursue the subject. Our design is to light the beacon that warns our fellow laborers of approaching danger. If our infant manufacturers and silk cultivators, wish to "exult in the enjoyment of existence," they must not sleep like the Nazarite until their locks are shorn by measures so insidious as these.

We shall enclose in this communication for public exhibition, specimens of silk manufactured by a worthy and industrious but poor woman, who is bending under the weight of four score years, and who has been lately instructing a family of grandchildren, some under the age of six years, to take her station in different branches of a family establishment of this nature, when in the progress of Divine economy, the attenuated thread of her earthly existence is broken. This article can be furnished at less than Italian manufacture, and shows beyond controversy that the proposed measure is as *unnecessary* as it is impolitic and unjust. PHILO BOMBYX.

Bots in Horses.

BY A FARMER.

MR. TUCKER—In three of your numbers for February last, and in the first number for March, I have observed an article on the subject of "Bots." I am induced to notice these articles, both because they relate to a subject of considerable importance to the farmer, and because I fear, so far as their influence extends, they may lead to unfortunate results. The design and tendency of the article in the Farmer of February 16th, is to induce the belief, that bots do not harm the horse—that the ailment which we ordinarily consider "bots," is in reality cholic; and if, in such cases, prescriptions suited to cholic were made instead of those for bots, the lives of horses might in many instances be saved.

It is stated that "the bot is attached to the sides of the stomach by two sharp hooks near the tail; with the mouth and body inward; a position most proper to reach their natural and only food, the gastric juices." That these juices were their only food, is inferred by the writer from the fact, that, by the aid of the magnifying glasses, he could discover "no apparatus for mastication—none that could, by possibility, avail in dividing or perforating the muscular fiber of the stomach." The inference then seems irresistible, that our theory and practice in relation to treatment for bots, has been altogether erroneous and unfortunate. In pursuance of this impression and belief, it is probable that many farmers may hereafter totally alter their views and practice in relation to this subject. The fear that this may be the fact, and that it will ultimately terminate in disastrous consequences, induces me to drop this line to you on the subject.

The physiology of the bot, so far as I understand it, is correctly stated in the articles to which I have alluded above. It is extremely tenacious of life; and from experiments which I have made, I am convinced no remedy can be internally applied, to kill them in the stomach of the horse, that will not also destroy the horse's life. I have never examined the bot with magnifying glasses, and whether, as stated in the article at page 49, vol. 5, they have no power or means of mastication be true, I cannot say. I had supposed they possessed a mouth, with a competent supply of efficient teeth. I have still to learn that they have not. In what way they produce those spasms, or sudden attacks of extreme distress in the horse, which we so often witness, I cannot tell. If the bot does in fact produce these spasms, or these attacks of pain and distress, what in particular can be the exciting or inducing cause, *at the time*—what can induce them to such a concert of action, at any particular time, as to cause or produce such sudden, distressing and fatal effects, I cannot imagine. If we knew the cause, we might, perhaps, successfully apply preventive remedies. But taking facts as they exist, what now most concerns us is, to apply a remedy, not for prevention, but for cure.

To this specific purpose I addressed a communication to you on this subject, which can be found in your number for May 10th, 1834. (See vol. 4, page 149, of Genesee Farmer.) I considered the advice there given, and the testimony there adduced, to be of the most respectable, conclusive, and unquestioned character. None need be more so. And I beg farmers interested in this subject, who may be influenced by the articles in your numbers of February last, to which I have alluded, to read once more the article of May 10th, 1834, to which I have just referred.

In refutation of the suggestion, that the bot has no masticating powers, and cannot gnaw the stomach, and therefore harmless—that the injury derived to the stomach is caused by the perforation of the hooks near the tail, by which the bot is suspended, and the inflammation induced by the perforations made by these hooks, I will just observe: In the case of one of the blood horses mentioned in the lines prefixed to the article of May 10th, 1834, in vol. 4, page 149, I made a minute examination, and experimented on the bot. The stomach presented a most astonishing exhibit. It had very many perforations through which one might easily pass a goose quil of common size. It had also several extended perforations, which I should think, speaking from recollection, were one or two inches in length. The appearance was so astonishing as to induce an exclamation from the operator who opened the horse, "that his stomach was literally eaten into ribbons!" In addition to an astonishing amount of bots in his stomach, a large number had escaped from the stomach into the body of the animal. Now, Mr. Editor, this favors very little the theory, that the bot has no masticating facilities. I had never seen this animal have what we consider "an attack of the bots." He probably had such spasms, but they had not been observed. He was in pasture near by—was seen, but not particularly noticed daily. The first indication of illness observed, was a disinclination to eat, and his lying in the intense heat of the sun at mid-day, while shades were at hand. Little was thought of it. Some slight indisposition was imagined, and the next morning he was dead. The cause was not conjectured till discovered on opening the body.

I am by no means convinced that "the bot hangs *head downwards*, suspended by hooks near the tail." They may be attached to the stomach by hooks, but hooks or claws near the head I imagine, rather than near the tail. If *no progressive motion* has ever been discovered in the bot, while under experiment or examination, I can easily conceive that it may be difficult to decide which extremity is, in reality, head. I will name a fact, that induces the opinion that they are suspended from the head. I lost two years since a fine colt, about two years old, with what appeared to be "consumption." He was well attended through the winter,—had excellent hay, and a moderate but sufficient feed of grain regularly every day. Still he declined, till ultimately unable to stand, when swelling of the limbs succeeded, and he soon died. On opening the body, no organic disease appeared; but on opening the stomach the exhibition was astonishing. A large portion of the inner surface of the stomach was

entirely covered with bots, so closely posited as to touch each other. Many perforations were made through the stomach the size of a small quill. They adhered to the stomach with astonishing tenacity. By considerable pressure I removed one of them, and his head, as I considered it, that is, the part from which he was suspended, *was entirely imbedded in the stomach*, so that when removed there was a cavity, not quite through, but sufficiently deep and large to receive a shot of considerable size. Now, it would be an anomaly in physiological science, for a grub or worm to eat with his tail. In conclusion therefore, Mr. Editor, I am constrained to advise farmers to resort a while longer to the remedy suggested by Gov. Lewis. (See page 149, vol. 4, of Genesee Farmer.) And in confirmation also of his suggestion, that a small amount of ashes given to the horse once a week will prevent injury from bots, I will just observe, that an eminent farmer of Columbia county, "who has never less than 20 to 30 horses," once stated to me, "that he always gave each horse a small portion of ashes twice a week, and never had a case of bots in his life."

A Farmer.

To Destroy Ticks on Sheep.

BY A PENNSYLVANIA FARMER.

Friend Tucker—I have been a constant reader of thy valuable paper for more than two years, during which time I have noticed several communications on the best method of destroying ticks on sheep, none of which seem to me so well adapted to the end designed as that which an experience of sixty years in farming, has led me to adopt, and which is now submitted to the public with much diffidence. I have had for several years a flock of sheep, about one hundred in number, composed of the Merino and Bakewell breeds, and when purchased by me the former were much afflicted by "the scab," and all by ticks—the lambs the most severely For the destruction of the ticks, I procured between one-half and three-fourths of a bushel of stems or refuse tobacco, which I boiled, and when the strength was sufficiently extracted the liquor was put into a half hogshead tub, as being the most suitable for the operation intended—to this was added water till the tub was nearly full. After the sheep were sheared, they were taken and immersed in this decoction, a board being placed across the tub in the meantime for the purpose of draining them on, thereby saving the liquor, which would otherwise be soon exhausted In this operation the head of the sheep is to be exempt from immersion, and to be properly done three persons are necessary, one to manage the head and the others the feet. The lambs should undergo the same process, the decoction being previously diluted with water, and a little more care should be taken in draining them. A second operation will be necessary in about ten days after the first—this is indispensable to effect the object intended. The intervening time between the first and second immersion is necessary for the eggs of the old ones to hatch, and this young colony once destroyed, the cure is complete. It may be well to remark, in relation to this process, that its effect in the destruction of "the scab," was equally as salutary and decisive as in the case of the ticks. If the foregoing remarks are deemed worthy of a place in the columns of the Farmer, insert them and oblige

A Pennsylvania Farmer.

Wood Lawn, 3d mo. 17, 1835.

Rearing Lambs.

We make the following extract from a communication of Daniel S. Curtis, in the Cultivator:

"My principal object in this communication is, to give to the public the result of my experience in rearing lambs; and which I am sensible will be lost to all those that neglect their flocks, and to most of those that do not attend to them personally; as care and prompt attention to all their wants is the great secret To ensure the life and health of every lamb, bearing ewes should all be in good condition; then lambs are as likely to live as the young of other animals; but if the ewes are feeble, they will have no milk to support their lambs if they should chance to be strong and healthy. Feeble sheep are often exhausted in bringing forth their young, and consequently will take no notice of them, and strong as well as feeble ones, sometimes need help at such times, which should be done with great caution; they should never be helped except when their pains are on, und when they are trying to help themselves; and the lamb should not be taken entirely away, but left so that the sheep will have to make a little exertion after she is left, otherwise, if the sheep is at all wild, she will from fear of the person helping her, make her escape and take no notice of her lamb. I am in the habit of helping every sheep in that situation which I can come at, as it undoubtedly saves them much pain and exertion. Sheep should invariably be housed nights and stormy weather during the time of dropping lambs, and I have been in the habit of housing mine nights, till I wash them, to secure them from the ravages of the foxes. Sheep should have all the facilities for procuring fresh grass that is possible to give them, before and after the time of dropping their lambs, which adds greatly to the quantity as well as quality of their milk; but turning them out on the fields without close attention, is often the cause of losing lambs, as when they are dropped on the cold ground they often become chilled, so as to be unable to get up, and in a short time will be past recovery. When I have neglected mine in that way, and found one that has any life left, I take it immediately to a warm room, and put all but its head into a pail of warm water, and then rub it with a dry cloth till it begins to struggle for life; and I have never failed of restoring such lambs the use of their limbs, though I have found them so far gone as to be unable for some time to observe any expansion of the lungs, with their limbs perfectly stiff, and their jaws almost immovably fixed. With such attention, you may have them running in about one hour, and to all appearance as strong as if nothing had happened to them; though they require a warmer atmosphere for some time than if they had not been chilled. Care should be taken not to feed them with milk, till they are sufficiently recovered, as there is danger of strangling them by the milk entering their lungs. I have had them injured in that way, which though they lived, would be a long time recovering from the effects of such treatment. Lambs will live twenty-four hours and even longer without any nourishment, and should not as a general rule be fed, till by their actions you discover they are seeking food, and then they will in most cases drink without much trouble. Many lambs that it becomes necessary to feed, are lost for the want of sufficient food, through fear of over-feeding; but my experience teaches, that they should have all they will drink, and I let their own appetites govern. I have often had lambs of twenty-four hours old drink a pint of milk at once, and when they drink the most, feel the most assured of success in raising them. There will always in a large flock, be some that will not get milk enough. I am in the habit of making all such ones drink that I can, by taking a basin of milk and giving them my thumb to suck, so as to have a full supply once or twice a day, till the milk of the sheep increases by the growth of feed. The milk of such sheep as lose their lambs should not be lost, but kept for the support of those that have not a full supply; such sheep I manage to make own the lambs of others, so that I often have lambs that draw their living from two sheep through the season; this I do when I find the dead lamb before it is dry, by rubbing it over the lamb I wish to make the sheep own, and in that way deceive her, and make her think it hers. Where that will not answer, I skin the dead one, and sew the skin on the live one, which generally answers the desired end; but in case of failure in both the above experiments, I tie up the sheep and fetter her in a small pen with the lamb and the other sheep, and hold her for the lamb to suck several times in a day, till she will own it. As a proof of the truth of what I have asserted, that care and prompt attention are the great secret of success, I will relate my success last year, which I am far from attributing to any good luck I have over others, as I believe that prosperity or adversity, in all such cases, is the result of good or bad management, of care or neglect. Of one hundred and thirty-one lambs I had dropt last spring, I raised one hundred and twenty-six.

A few words as to future management and I have done. Lambs should always be left at home when sheep are to be washed, as they are saved much fatigue where the distance is considerable, and many accidents incident to a pen, crowded as they are at such times; besides the advantage of having the sheep go directly home without any trouble, after washing. Ticks are very injurious to sheep of all ages, but more so to lambs, as they have the trouble of them in summer; the ticks leaving the old ones for a more secure retreat on the lambs. To destroy ticks, I take 10 or 12 lbs. of tobacco stalks for one hundred lambs, (which I buy of the tobacconist for as many pence,) and at the time I shear sheep, put it into a tub sufficiently large to dip them in, and fill it with water, and let it soak six or eight days, when I get up my lambs, mark, dock and alter them, then dip them into the tobacco juice; this not only kills the ticks, but is serviceable to the wounds made by docking and altering, and is all the remedy I ever apply to such wounds. Dipping the lambs in that way, two successive years, will destroy all the ticks in the flock.

"The method of docking lambs by taking hold of the tail and cutting it off while the animal is struggling to escape, is very cruel, as it leaves the bone longer than the skin, which not only makes it very sore, but induces the flies to work at it, which endangers the life of the lamb. My method is, to have a man take up the lamb, and place the tail bottom upwards on the square edge of a block; then with a large knife, I crowd the skin which is loose up to the body, and strike the knife with a hammer, which leaves the skin longer than the bone, and consequently it closes together over the bone, and the wound heals in a short time. I alter lambs by cutting the pouch off close to the body, which leaves nothing to impede the shears, more than cording, and is attended with less trouble. Lambs that have much wool on them, should be sheared about the pouch, to prevent the blood and wool from becoming so hard as to obstruct the discharge of matter from the wound. Lambs should be weaned the last of August, and have a good chance for feed till November; then oats in the bundle two or three months, as their condition may require. I might write much more which would be useful to wool growers who are inexperienced, but I am already admonished that the length of this may preclude its admission into your valuable paper."

Hartford County Silk Society.—On Thursday the 7th inst. a number of gentlemen from different parts of the country, met in Hartford and formed a society, "to introduce and extend, throughout the country, the knowledge and practice of cultivating and raising mulberry trees, of feeding and managing silk worms, and reeling silk from cocoons, in the most approved method."—*N. Y. Dai. Adv.*

From the New-England Farmer.

Indian Corn.

Sir—Having been often requested both by scientific and practical farmers, to publish my method of growing Indian Corn, I take the liberty to offer to the public, through your useful Journal, the *New-England Farmer*, a few practical hints to young corn-growers. The reader will readily perceive, that I am more used to handling the plough and hoe than the pen, consequently he will excuse me, if I should now and then make a *baulk* with the latter. In this I shall give the result of my experience in raising corn on green sward, so called.

I plough as late, or as near to planting in the spring as possible, so as to turn under as much growth of green grass as I possibly can, which will immediately ferment, and help to decompose the old fog and sward, which makes the best of food for the latter growth of the corn. I usually plough one day and plant the next, in the following manner: I commence on the further side or longest way of the field; after ploughing one day or so, I cart on the furrows, and drop in heaps, at the rate of about twenty ox cart loads of good compost manure to the acre; thirty-five bushels I call a load; dropped into six heaps the distance of the cart and oxen apart, each way, from center to center, will about do it. After dropping two rows of heaps, I spread the manure as even as possible, then harrow it over twice with a light harrow, then roll with a heavy roller, which I consider very important, as the harrow partially moves the manure with the soil, the roller levels the surface, and presses the manure into the soil, which prevents in a great measure its wasting either by evaporation or the wind. I then furrow very shallow, calculating my rows three feet and a half from center to center; as sward land should always be worked lengthwise of the furrow, it is not necessary to furrow but one way, as all harrowing, ploughing, and hoeing the crop, should be done lengthwise, so as not to disturb the sod. If I have a plenty of manure, I then drop into the furrow in the hills, about eighteen inches apart, a small quantity of manure. In dropping the corn (a very nice operation) after leveling the manure with my foot, I strew from six to eight kernels lengthwise of the hill, in nearly a straight line, making the hill about ten inches long. The advantage of having the corn in a line is, you can pass with the plough or cultivator, (the latter I consider much the best,) near the corn without disturbing it, which I consider very important. At the first dressing I pass twice in a row with the cultivator, taking care to shave close to the corn each time, then follow with the hoe, and chop around the corn, for the purpose of killing the weeds and loosening the soil; taking care not to draw any earth up. At the second and third dressing, I pass with the cultivator or plough within about eight inches of the corn, and chop with the hoe as before, earthing up a very little, say about one inch each time; taking care to thin out the weakest plants, leaving from four to six in each hill. Immediately after the last dressing I sow about one pound of turnep seed to the acre. I will state some of the advantages of planting at the time of ploughing. You make clean work, (as the old saying is among farmers,) by beginning on the further side of the field, all the carting of manure, and passing, will be on the grass, which is easier and better than passing over ploughed land. Likewise at that season of the year, cattle are generally weaker than at any other time, therefore, ploughing one day and planting the next, relieves them very much. Also by planting immediately after ploughing, the corn will get the start of the weeds, particularly if it has been soaked twenty-four hours in a weak solution of niter, and then mixed with ashes, so as to separate freely before planting.

I plant the early twelve rowed kind, which I name the Phinney corn, having first obtained the seed from E. Phinney, Esq. a first rate farmer in the town of Lexington, which I consider the best I ever planted, although I presume I have planted twenty different kinds, that I have received from different parts of the country. The ears are long, the kernels well set, and the cob better filled out than any other kind I ever saw. Take two ears of equal lengths, one a twelve, the other eight rowed, the twelve rowed ear will contain nearly a third more shelled corn than the eight. The stalks are very small and short, particularly the tops; consequently the ground is not so much shaded, which is a great advantage to the turnep crop.

The practice of spreading the manure on the sod, before ploughing, I do not approve of. I give my reasons: In 1828 or 9, I planted a field of about four acres, in the way and manner I have described, except a strip or band about two rods wide through the middle of the field, on which I spread the same kind and quantity of manure before ploughing, that I did on the other; and the after management was the same as the rest of the field. You could see the difference in the corn in every stage of its growth. Come to harvesting, the ears were not so large nor so well filled out. The next spring I sowed the field down to grass without disturbing the sod; the seed took well, and I had a fine crop for several years after. For two or three years after, the grass was smaller on the strip where the manure was ploughed in, after which you could not perceive much difference in the crop. The experiment led me to observe more particularly the difference between spreading manure on or near the surface, or burying it deep. I am aware that it is said by some, and some very good practical farmers too, that you cannot bury animal manure; that the gases will always rise to the surface, which I will admit they do in some measure; but the juices, the most important part, which way do they go?—up or down? I say down; and a good way down, in some soils. For instance, where a large heap of manure lies over winter in the field, after moving the same in the spring, if you take it up, and then manage the spot the same as other parts of the field, without ploughing or putting on any manure, you will have a large crop. On the other hand, if you plough the spot deep, after moving the heap of manure, the crop will be small comparatively speaking, unless you manure the same as you do other parts of the field.

Now, Mr. Editor, if any of your subscribers will try my method of raising Indian corn, with a good kind of seed, on a tolerable good soil, and manage the whole process skilfully, in a good husbandlike manner, and the season should be as favorable as the last was, if he don't raise from 75 to 100 bushels of corn to the acre, and 200 bushels of turneps, besides pumpkins and beans if he plants them, I will tell him how to make compost and manage his field next season, so that he can cut his two tons of hay to the acre, for three or four years to come; which will more than pay them for the trouble of reading this and trying the experiment.

Daniel Chandler.

B———, March 16th, 1835.

N. B. If you plant fallow ground, either spread the manure on the furrows, or harrow it in, or put the corn under the dung. D. C.

Planting Trees.

There are few things which add more to the beauty and comfort of a country village or a large and populous city than a growth of forest or fruit trees, extending their shady branches over the streets, ornamenting the public squares, or lining the public walks. A large and beautiful tree is one of the most magnificent objects in nature; and a landscape without trees presents but a barren and cheerless aspect. In many of the countries of Europe the Governments encourage the practice of planting ornamental trees. Even in Russia, the road side in many places is lined with beautiful birches, and in Germany the public highways for hundreds of miles present continuous avenues of fruit and ornamental trees, which shelter the traveler from the heat in summer, and from the cheerless north wind in winter, and add to the wealth and comfort of the inhabitants. In this country, the Elm is doubtless the most desirable tree for ornamental purposes, and it will flourish in almost every variety of soil. In passing through New-England the traveler is struck with the appearance of the towering and majestic trees, and cannot but acknowledge that our fathers fulfilled the sacred duties which they owed to posterity. But every man is not a philanthropist; and many persons neglect to plant trees, lest they should never live to rest under their umbrageous boughs. This is a selfish principle, and should not be cherished. The ornamental trees of America are of rapid growth, and a person in the prime of life may reasonably anticipate the pleasure of reposing at some future day, under the boughs of a lofty Elm, whose gradual growth he had long watched with delight, and gazing with delight on the extended branches of a tree which his own hand had planted. In a village in a neighboring state there is an elm twelve feet in circumference; its branches shoot out beautifully in every direction to the distance of forty-five feet—and it is estimated to contain seven or eight cords of wood. It is the largest tree within a circuit of several miles. Yet this tree was planted when a sapling, by a gentleman now living—and who may reasonably expect to enjoy for years, the gratification of beholding the splendid ornament of his native town, which has thus flourished under his fostering care.—*Boston Courier.*

Madder.

(*Rubia tinctorum.*)

This plant has a perennial root, and an annual stalk. It is cultivated for the roots, which, after being dried and ground, are employed in considerable quantities in dying a fine red color, and likewise as a first tint for several other shades. It is principally cultivated in Holland, the province of Zealand being almost entirely covered with it, from whence it is exported to every part of Europe and America, yielding almost incalculable profits. The imports of this article, for the use of our manufactories, is stated to amount in value, to more than two millions of dollars annually. Our soil and climate are found to be well adapted to its culture, and some successful experiments have been made in raising it in the counties of Madison and Otsego. We refer the reader to the communications of Mr. Bronson, a cultivator of it, which will be found in pp. 85, 141, of our first volume. We invite the attention of our farmers to the subject, as a matter of importance to them and the community at large.

Madder does best in a deep rich sand loam, moist, but not wet. It requires three summers to come to perfection; and as the roots strike deep, the ground should be ploughed and mellowed to the depth of two and a half to three feet, for its reception. Miller says it should be planted with a dibble, (it is propagated by offsetts from the old roots,) in rows from two to three feet apart; while Beechstein says they should be planted only six inches asunder. The practice in this country, we believe, for we are not personally familiar with it, is to plant in rows four to five feet apart, and to cultivate rows of corn or potatoes between them, at least the first year. The season for planting is in May or June. The acre produces from ten to fifteen and twenty hundred weight. The price in market is about 20 cents per pound.—*Cultivator.*

Peach Trees.

A correspondent of the Farmer and Gardner says, that having cleared his peach trees from the worms, he took some fine screenings of anthracite coal, and having cleared away the dirt from about the stock, put about a quart or two of the screenings to each; and that the trees thus served, were, a year afterwards, wholly free from worms. In corroboration of the efficiency of this remedy, we add, that we have applied the ashes, blended as they always are with fine coal, in like manner, and with like apparent success.—*Ib.*

He who defers the hour of beginning to live correctly, is like the peasant who waits to have the river flow past; but it continues to flow, and will flow till the end of time.—*Horace.*

Meteorological Table,

KEPT AT ROCHESTER, FOR MARCH, 1835.

	10 A. M.				10 P. M.			
Days.	therm.	barom-eter.	winds	sky	therm.	barom-eter	winds.	sky
1	12	29,75	W	fair	13	29,75	N W	fair
2	18	29,85	N W	cloudy	8	29,95	N W	cloudy
3	10	30,05	W	fair	6	30,05	N W	fair
4	18	30,15	S W	do	19	30,10	W	do
5	30	30,05	S W	do	25	29,90	S W	do
6	35	29,85	E	do	30	29,75	E	do
7	38	29,70	E	do	35	29,60	E	do
8	40	29,60	S E	do	33	29,60	E	do
9	40	29,50	S E	cloudy	42	29,50	S E	cloudy
10	42	29,35	W	do	35	29,50	E	do
11	40	29,65	W	do	34	29,70	W	fair
12	44	29,70	W	fair	40	29,10	W	cloudy
13	41	29,25	W	cloudy	41	29,55	N W	fair
14	40	29,55	W	do	39	29,40	S W	cloudy
15	40	29,35	W	fair	47	29,10	S	do
16	46	29,05	W	do	42	29,70	W	fair
17	20	29,50	N W	do	22	29,10	N W	do
18	32	29,70	S	do	36	29,40	S	do
19	34	29,20	W	cloudy	33	29,40	S W	do
20	42	29,60	W	fair	46	29,30	S	cloudy
21	38	29,45	W	do	35	29,50	N W	do
22	30	28,85	N E	cloudy	18	29,05	N E	do
23	22	29,35	W	fair	26	29,55	W	do
24	35	29,65	W	do	34	29,80	W	do
25	36	29,95	E	do	40	29,80	E	fair
26	52	29,65	S	cloudy	50	29,45	S	cloudy
27	40	29,45	W	do	37	29,50	W	do
28	46	29,40	W	fair	38	29,30	S	do
29	41	29,45	N	do	35	29,55	N E	do
30	42	29,50	N E	cloudy	40	29,45	W	fair
31	46	29,45	N W	fair	44	29,45	W	do

MEANS.—Ther. 35°—Barom. 29.59—Snow on the 19th 2 inches, on the 22d 14 inches—16 inches. The wet state of the roads, when the snow fell, rendered them nearly impassable for a time, either with sleighs or wagons, and no good sleighing followed. In less than a week the ground was bare. Roads are now, March 31st, quite dry and passable Rain during the month, 5 inches.

More New and Valuable Seeds.

JUST received at the "Rochester Seed Store," in addition to the former assortment, many choice kinds of seeds, including new White Italian Mulberry, Dyer's Madder, and Dale's New Hybrid Turnep. Also, a few quarts of the new and celebrated Skinless Oats, Bonavista Beans, Early Golden Sioux Corn, &c.; together with some hundred varieties of *Flower Seeds*, which will be put up in small papers at 6*d.* each, or 20 varieties for $1, and 100 varieties for $4. When the selection is left to the proprietors, care will be taken to select such as will form a pleasing assortment as to color, time of flowering, &c.

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

A large and comprehensive Catalogue of the Establishment is just published, and will be furnished gratis on application. mar 19

Rochester Seed Store & Horti-

CULTURAL REPOSITORY.

No. 5 Arcade Hall, next door but one to the Post-Office.

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM, having completed their assortment, now offer to the pubiic the best and most extensive collection of Garden, Field and Flower Seeds, ever before offered in the Western country.

Their stock is entirely new, and having been purchased directly of the growers and importers, the vitality and purity of the seeds are expressly guaranteed. Farmers and Gardeners will find a great variety of new and valuable Seeds not heretofore introduced into this section of country.

They have also an assortment of superior Horticultural Implements, Books, &c.

Merchants and others supplied with assortments of Seeds for retailing at a liberal discount.

All orders for Seeds, Fruit or Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Grape Vines, Green-House Plants, &c. &c. by mail or otherwise, will meet with prompt attention.

Cash will at all times be paid for Grass and Clover Seed, Peas, Beans, &c. dec 9-r4tf

Wanted,

A PERSON well qualified to take charge of one of Andrew's Patent Shingle Mills. A person that can bring satisfactory testimonials of character and capability, will meet with a good situation, constant employment, and cash down. None need apply but those that are well acquainted with the management of circular saws. For further particulars inquire (if by letter, post paid,) of J. G. STOCKLEY, Allanburgh Mills, Thorold Post Office, Upper Canada. ap 11-5t

Superior Seeds, Trees, &c.

Linnæan Garden and Nurseries, near New-York.

WM. PRINCE & SONS, offer to the public the most extensive collection of GARDEN, AGRICULTURAL, FLOWER, and TREE SEEDS, that has ever existed in America, and their excellence is expressly guaranteed. Among these are *above* 100 *new varieties of Vegetables which have never before been offered for sale*, selected with great care from the finest collections of France, Italy, Germany, and England, and tested during the two past years in their own grounds, where they have been found to completely rival many of the old varieties. They have two species of Onion particularly suited to a northern climate on account of their early maturity, the Early Paris White, remarkable for its beautiful silvery appearance, and for attaining a large size the first season, being much earlier than any other white variety, and the Early Red Madeira, of excellent flavor and earliest of all onions. The Yellow Dutch also attains a large size the first season. The price of the first named sort is $1,50 per lb., of the second $1,25, and the third 87 cts.—Common Red Onion 75 cts., Large White $1,25—and 2800 lbs. are now ready for delivery. All other seeds will be supplied to Venders proportionably low, and at a liberal credit. Also, 2000 lbs. Mangold Wurzel, including 600 lbs. of the Golden Yellow and White varieties, which are found much preferable to the Red, on account of their surpassing it in saccharine matter; 30 bushels Italian Rye Grass, 50 bushels Pacey's Perennial do., 2500 lbs. Dutch White Clover seed, 2000 lbs. finest Florence Lucerne, 500 lbs. Trifolium incarnatum, &c. &c.

The collection of Fruit Trees, Flowering Shrubs, and Plants, covers near 50 acres *compactly planted*, and the nine Green Houses and Conservatories contain 30,000 plants in pots. Of the splendid Dahlia several thousand are ready for delivery, comprising all the choice variegated varieties, and as the stock of all these articles is the most extensive in the Union, they will be supplied at reduced rates. Orders sent *direct*, per mail will meet immediate attention. Priced Catalogues of Seeds, and of every class of Trees, Plants, &c. will be sent to all applicants, and wholesale priced lists of Seeds, &c. will be furnished when desired. *No payment will be required by us for any article that does not prove precisely as represented.* ap 4-3t

Albany Seed Store and Horticul-

TURAL REPOSITORY.

THE subscriber is now enabled to furnish traders and others with fresh GARDEN SEEDS, upon very favorable terms, growth of 1834, warranted of the best quality.

The greatest care and attention has been bestowed upon the growing and saving of Seeds, and none will be sold at this establishment excepting those raised expressly for it, and by experienced seedsmen; and those kinds imported which cannot be raised to perfection in this country; these are from the best houses in Europe, and may be relied upon as genuine.

It is earnestly requested whenever there are any failures hereafter, they should be represented to the subscriber; not that it is possible to obviate unfavorable seasons and circumstances, but that satisfaction may be rendered, and perfection approximated.

Orders will be punctually attended to, and carefully packed and forwarded as directed. But as the collection of distant debts is often troublesome, and sometimes impracticable, it is desired that satisfactory references be made to persons in Albany, when the order is not accompanied with the money.

Also, French Lucerne, White Dutch Clover, White Mulberry Seed, genuine Mangel Wurtzel, Yellow Locust, Ruta Baga and field Turnep Seeds, well worthy the attention of Farmers.

W. THORBURN,

No. 347 N. Market-st. opposite Post Office.

Catalogues may be had at the store; if sent for by mail, will be forwarded gratis. Orders solicited early, as better justice can be done in the execution. mar 25-3t

Mr. Hussey's Grain Cutter.

A MACHINE, invented and built by Mr. Hussey, of Ohio, has been used by the subscriber, in the town of Leicester, county of Livingston, during last harvest, to cut about fifty acres of wheat. The wheat cut with the Machine was of different growth, varying from 10 to 40 bushels the acre. The experiment has shown that it does the work equally well in large or small grain—and it is no obstruction to the machine, where the grain is badly lodged. It cuts and gathers lodged grain clean, except where it lies below the cutters, in which case it is passed over unmolested.

It neither pulls down nor leaves a straw where it passes along—but cuts all clean. The wheat, as it is cut, falls on a table attached to the machine, until sufficient has accumulated for a bundle, when it is slipped off without impeding the progress of the machine. It is capable of cutting about two acres per hour. One piece of wheat, containing five acres by measure, was timed. The machine was actually employed just two hours and seventeen minutes in cutting the wheat which was estimated at 30 bushels the acre. The machinery is simple, and not likely to get out of repair. It does the work well on rolling ground, and without much inconvenience. The common prejudices against new improvements, have uniformly vanished from men in relation to this machine, as soon as they had opportunity to see it in operation. It is believed that this machine, when known to the agricultural community, will be ranked among the most valuable improvements of the age.

The annexed certificate will show the favorable views of a number of gentlemen who have seen the machine in operation. The inventor has taken out Letters Patent, and has appointed the subscriber his agent for the state of New York, to build, vend and use his machine, and also to sell individual, town and county rights. Persons wishing to purchase machines, to be ready at the commencement of next harvest, may be accommodated if they apply soon to Benjamin W. Bills of Mount Morris, or the subscriber at Moscow. Applications for machines must be made by the last of April, or there will not be sufficient time to procure the materials and build the machines in time for next harvest. All communications relative to machines, or rights, addressed to the subscriber, at Moscow, Livingston county, will be promptly attended to.

JEREDIAH HORSFORD.

Moscow, 18th March, 1835.

CERTIFICATE.

We have seen Mr. Hussey's Machine for cutting grain by horse power, while it was in operation in the town of Leicester, in the county of Livingston, during last harvest. It cuts a swath about four feet wide, and moves at the rate of about four miles per hour, or as fast as horses can walk. It is drawn by two horses—is attended by one man, and requires a man or boy to drive the horses—gathers the grain cleaner than any other mode of harvesting we have ever seen, and leaves it in gavels ready for binding. The machinery is rather simple, and we think it worthy the attention of a wheat growing community.

JOHN H. JONES,	JESSE WADDAMS,
H. JONES, JR.	HEN. A. WILMERDING,
DAVID A. MILLER,	WM. LYMAN,
IRA HOLMES,	EPHRAIM CONE,
W. C. DWIGHT,	WALTER CHENEY,

E. ROGERS.

Leicester, Liv. co., 18th March, 1835. ap 11-4t

Monroe Horticultural Garden &

NURSERY.

THE subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German, English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses, Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots, &c. &c.

ALSO—A few hundred of the Morus Multicaulis, or Chinese Mulberry, the White Italian Mulberry by the hunbred or thousand, Grape Vines of both native and foreign varieties, mosty of large size, for sale by the single vine, hundred or thousand, at reduced prices. The subscriber has a large collection of Green-House Plants of choice and select varieties, and in good condition.

☞ Orders for *Mr.* Rowe's Nursery received by the Publisher of this paper.

Catalogues will be sent to those who wish them, gratis, or may be had by calling at the office of the Genesee Farmer. ASA ROWE.

Greece, Monroe co. N. Y. Sept. 13, 1834.

The White Mulberry.

The first object of attention to a person contemplating the culture of silk, is to secure an abundant and convenient supply of mulberry leaves, without which he of course can do nothing. The supply must be abundant, that he may not from any cause be obliged to stint the worms, at a moment when his whole crop depends upon a full and free supply of food, which is during the last ten days of their feeding; and it must be convenient, that the expense of attendants for gathering leaves may be as small as possible. There are many accidents that may cause the loss of leaves; during a spell of wet weather it is necessary to gather a supply for a day or two a-head, that they may be dried before feeding them to the worms; these may become spoiled, and thus lost. Therefore, if we intend to keep worms enough to consume the leaves of one hundred trees, we should always have 150 or 200 trees, and this will be no loss to the proprietor, as ultimately he will find his account in not robbing the trees of their foliage too much, and he will thus be able to favor them in this respect, should he meet with no loss of leaves. It will also be advisable always to have a nursery of young trees for transplanting, to fill vacancies occasioned either by decay or accident in his orchard. In general it may be calculated that a full grown tree will furnish leaves for 5000 worms; therefore, a pretty close estimate may be formed of the number wanted. They will require about one third more room than apple trees.

To propagate the white mulberry, one ounce of good seed may be obtained. If all these seed vegetate, they will produce about 8000 trees. As, however, there is much more *bad seed* for sale than good, care must be taken in selecting it. Nine-tenths of the seed sold in the United States is either old, or worthless from some other cause, the most common of which is its being gathered before perfectly ripe. The test of good seed in Europe, is by no means infallible. They put it into cold water, condemning that which floats, and approving that which sinks. In the case of immature seed, this test fails, for if tried while fresh, it is just as heavy as mature seed; and if the seed be old it fails also, for the specific gravity of old dry seed is less than that of water, and consequently it will float; when at the same time a great part of it will vegetate. If, however, the seed be soaked in *hot water* a few hours, what is really good will sink, and the worthless will continue to float; and it may thus be tested, for the good seed alone will swell and sink to the bottom, whether the bad seed be so from age, premature gathering, or any other cause.

The seed should be planted in a bed, prepared as for lettuce, or any other small seed, in a rich, warm soil, where in dry times it will not suffer from drouth. It may be sown in drills like lettuce or radishes, and covered a quarter or a half inch deep with fine mold, as early in the spring as the ground and weather will permit; it will come up in ten to thirty days. The weeds must be carefully destroyed, and in dry times frequent watering will be highly beneficial. Previous to planting, the seed should be soaked in hot water (not boiling) three or four hours, and then rolled in fine brick dust, or plaster of paris. The trees will be fit for transplanting into nurseries in the fall, in the middle and southern states, and early the next spring in the north. I have some trees grown from seed planted in the spring of 1829, that are now five feet high, and three quarters of an inch diameter at the but end. Some recommend the summer, when the fruit is ripe, for planting the seed; but I think the spring the best time. After standing in the nursery two years, they may be transplanted into orchards, as other trees are planted, where they are to remain, and leaves may be taken from them after being there one year. I prefer transplanting in the fall, as the small fibrous roots which convey nourishment to the tree, have time to prepare for their functions by the vegetating season next spring. In all cases of transplanting trees, great care should be taken to preserve these very fine roots. The young trees should be pruned as other trees are when intended for the orchard. If hedges tor fences be wanted, the young trees may be taken immediately from the seed bed to to the hedge row. The white mulberry forms an excellent live fence, and when once established is probably the most permanent of any other. The more it is broken and lacerated by cattle the more impenetrable it will become; for, for every branch broken, a half a dozen shoots will immediately start out, till the bush forms a perfect bramble.* This mode is therefore recommended as accomplishing three important objects—supplying food for silk worms, keeping the trees low that the leaves may be gathered from the ground, and furnishing a good almost never-ending fence. In transplanting young trees for hedges, they should not be pruned; but the second year, or at least the third, the tops should be cut off, and the side branches trained laterally with the hedge, by interweaving them.

Cuttings may be taken at all times after the fall of the leaf and before the swelling of the buds in spring. They should be those shoots on the limbs of the tree of the last summer's growth that grow perpendicularly, taken carefully off with a saw, including as much of the protuberance of old wood at their base as possible. They may be put into the ground immediately, or kept in dry sand in a dark cellar till the opening of the spring. They will generally be from two to four feet in length, and should be set in an inclined position, about one foot in the ground. In the fall or next spring they may be transplanted into nurseries, and thence treated as seedlings. Suckers may be treated like young trees, as they generally have root enough to sustain them.

The situation and soil for a mulberry orchard require no other attention than the choice of high ground—that is, a site neither marshy nor bottom land. Although the mulberry requires a warm rich soil for the first year, it is perfectly indifferent as to soil forever afterwards. I have seen the tree in every variety of soil from the poorest to the richest, and have been able to observe no other difference in its foliage than a more firm texture in that on poor land than in that on rich; and this makes a dry stony or even sandy soil preferable to a rich one.

Of the mulberry tree it may be remarked, that there is scarcely any other so tenacious of life. The coldest weather seems not to effect it, while attempts to destroy it, when once fairly taken root, by grubbing it up, prove unavailing. Old trees have been cut down twenty or thirty years ago, and yet the old roots continue to throw up numerous shoots every spring, to the great annoyance of the tidy farmer. The young seedling of six months has a root almost equal to the top, and therefore possesses a great advantage over other trees, for it can be set so firmly in the ground as to be secure from injury by the wind, and obviates the necessity of close pruning. When four years old, it is safe to gather the leaves, which should be done sparingly at first, taking a few from each branch, till the tree has nearly attained its full size; it may then be stripped of two-thirds its foliage without injury. Indeed, I have stripped the tree entirely, and the next year it seemed to have a double quantity of foliage, in consequence of the numerous shoots produced by the excessive robbery. The white mulberry always puts out a second crop of foliage after being thus stripped, so that in the fall it exhibits little indication of the robbery in the summer. It is, however, better to economise in gathering the foliage, for the vigor of the tree will undoubtedly ultimately yield to continued excessive deprivation of leaves. Care should always be taken to destroy caterpillars at their first appearance in the spring, otherwise great loss of foliage will be sustained. They are easily destroyed when they first appear; but no efforts are sufficient after a few weeks quiet possession. When first discovered, the small branch containing the nest should be taken off and burnt, and the work is done.—*G. B. Smith.*

* It is not meant that cattle may be allowed free access to the hedge *while young*, as they would destroy it altogether; but that after it has becom a good fence, they may be allowed to approach it with advantage.

Care of Animals.

Good farmers will take care of their early lambs. Ewes from which lambs are soon expected should be housed if possible, and well fed. There is little danger of losing a lamb after it reaches the age of four days; if the dam affords plenty of milk, it will bear cold and exposure nearly as well as the mother. Early lambs afford the greatest profit in market; not only so, but early lambs make the strongest and largest and most profitable sheep. Nearly the same may be said of cows and early calves, as to housing, feeding, &c. as of sheep. The writers in the New-England Farmer and other papers devoted to agricultural subjects, often repeat it as a truism that the introduction of foreign breeds of cattle and sheep among careless, improvident farmers, is useless. The old American breeds can be starved as cheaply as foreign breeds, besides, they do not cost so much in the first instance, and of course the heedless farmer can make experiments on them at a cheaper rate. The writers highly approbate the attempts to improve the breeds of cattle; but contend that a large share of our farmers need improvement in their habits of taking care of cattle, before our flocks generally will exhibit any thing very promising.—*Columbian Register.*

The New Theory.

We endeavored, in a late number, to show the fallacy of the new theory, which teaches, that the matter thrown off in the soil by a species of plants is poisonous to the same species, and that this is the reason why a rotation of farm crops is rendered necessary in good husbandry. We instanced the fact, in disproof of its correctness, that in our western counties, wheat was frequently grown fifteen or twenty successive years without material diminution of crop. We have since been assured of the same fact in regard to oats, in the south part of Erie and Chautauque counties. As a further corroboration of our position being correct, that the excrementitious matter of plants *is not* prejudicial to the like species, we state, from a letter before us, from a highly respectable correspondent, that in the valley of Scotia, near the Ohio river, "many fields have been cultivated in corn for 20 or 30 years in succession." The soil of that valley is a rich alluvial deposit, possessing like fertilizing properties to the depth of 15 or 20 feet, and containing so inexhaustible a stock of the specific food of maize, that the supply has not been sensibly impaired by 20 or 30 successive crops of that grain.—*Cultivator.*

How to Boil Potatoes.

Seldom do we see potatoes well cooked, and still seldomer do we see them cooked without waste. By the following directions, both ends will be attained. Choose your potatoes of equal size, and put them into a saucepan, or pot without a lid, with no more water than is sufficient to cover them. By being boiled in a vessel without a lid, they do not crack, and all waste is prevented. After the water is come near to boil, pour it off and replace the hot by cold water, into which throw a good portion of salt. The cold water, sends the heat from the surface to the heart of the potatoe, and makes it mealy. Like all other vegetables, they are improved by being boiled with salt, which ought not to be spared. The only proper test of their being done enough, is to try them with a fork. After draining the water, they should be allowed to stand 10 or 15 minutes on or near the fire to dry.

Green Vegetable Manure.—The value of green vegetables as manure was strikingly proved by me in the spring of 1833. I had a trench opened of sufficient length to receive six sets of potatoes; under three of these sets I placed green cabbage leaves, but the other three had nothing but the soil. When the crop was dug up, the plants over the cabbage leaves yielded about double the produce of the other.—*J. D. Parks, Dartford Nursery, January, 1834.*